



## **DAILY TRACKER**

### **NUCLEAR ISSUES**

---

1. Unit 6 of the Hongyanhe nuclear power plant in China's Liaoning province has been connected to the grid, China General Nuclear (CGN) announced. The unit - the second of two ACPR-1000 reactors built as Phase II of the plant - is scheduled to enter commercial operation later this year.

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Hongyanhe-6-starts-supplying-power-to-the-grid>

2. Fennovoima has terminated the engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) contract with RAOS Project for the planned Hanhikivi 1 nuclear power plant project in northern Finland. Russian state nuclear corporation Rosatom said it was "extremely disappointed" by the decision.

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Fennovoima-cancels-Hanhikivi-1-contract-with-Russi>

3. UK Energy Minister Greg Hands has opened one of three new training centres to support the Hinkley Point C (HPC) project in Somerset. Together with existing facilities and investment into education and skills, the centres will be ready to help local people join the additional 4000 workers needed for the next phase of the plant's construction.

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Hinkley-Point-C-welding-training-centre-opens>

4. Threats by North Korea's leader Kim Jong Un that his nuclear arsenal could be used in a pre-emptive strike against his enemies, made as he paraded the country's latest military hardware through the streets of capital Pyongyang, have set alarm bells ringing.

Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/world/could-north-korea-pre-emptively-use-nuclear-weapons-7898258/>

5. Western officials have largely lost hope the Iran nuclear deal can be resurrected, sources familiar with the matter said, forcing them to weigh how to limit Iran's atomic program.

Source: <https://www.israelhayom.com/2022/05/03/iran-nuclear-talks-moribund-but-west-not-ready-to-pull-plug/>

6. Water is a key commodity for uranium production at Rössing, 12 km from the town of Arandis and 70 km inland from the coastal town of Swakopmund, in Namibia's Erongo Region. Three of NamWater's reservoirs are currently used to supply both Arandis and the mine with fresh water and also to provide buffer capacity when so-called sulphur outbreaks occur in the sea off the Namibian coast and a desalination plant - built by Orano - is unable to operate. In those circumstances, buffer capacity is reserved for Arandis once reservoirs fall to a certain level and the mine has to cease operations until levels recover. Rössing Uranium received approval in 2020 to build six reservoirs to complement the storage capacity that is provided by NamWater's reservoirs.

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Nambian-community-benefits-from-Rossing-reservoirs>

7. In the first edition of the new monthly World Nuclear News podcast, Sama Bilbao y León sets out the opportunities and challenges facing the industry - and says many countries are finally becoming serious about nuclear. John Lindberg sorts fact from fiction on radiation and the uranium sector is in focus as the month's news is reviewed.

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/The-World-Nuclear-News-Podcast-launches>

8. White House officials believe Iran is inching closer to becoming a nuclear threshold power and could be just weeks away from producing both sufficient fissile material and the necessary technology to weaponize and deliver a nuclear payload.

Source: <https://www.arabnews.com/node/2075151/middle-east>

9. NuScale Power has completed its merger with Spring Valley Acquisition Corp to create the world's first and only publicly traded small modular reactor (SMR) technology provider. The merged company will use the proceeds from the transaction to accelerate the commercialisation of NuScale's SMR technology.

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Completion-of-merger-creates-publicly-traded-SMR-c>

## MISSILES/ BIO WEAPONS

---

1. A suspected ballistic missile has been launched by North Korea on Wednesday, media reports said citing South Korean and Japanese officials. The missile, which was 14th round of weapons firing by North, has come six days before a new South Korean president takes office.

Source: <https://www.wionews.com/world/north-korea-fires-suspected-ballistic-missile-off-eastern-coast-say-south-korean-and-japanese-officials-476219>

2. After Mali accused the French Army of spying using drones to film a military base, France alleged mercenaries were burying bodies in it as the junta said France did not have a "legal basis" for carrying out military operations in the country.

Source: <https://www.wionews.com/world/after-drone-spying-row-mali-to-exit-defence-pact-with-france-476330>

3. On Monday, after colliding with a tree, a drone transporting guns into Canada from the United States was intercepted. Despite the fact that the drone crashed into a nearby tree, police in Canada were able to catch the pilot when the drone crossed the border into the United States carrying nearly a dozen guns.

Source: <https://www.wionews.com/world/drone-carrying-bag-of-handguns-from-us-to-canada-intercepted-by-tree-476247>

4. The United States condemned North Korea's ballistic missile launch on Wednesday and urged Pyongyang to refrain from further destabilizing actions, the U.S. military said in a statement.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/us-condemns-north-korea-missile-launch-says-no-immediate-threat-2022-05-04/>

5. Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said on Wednesday tension is rising in East Asia, as shown by a North Korean missile launch earlier in the day. read more

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/japan-pm-says-nkorean-missile-launch-shows-tensions-rising-east-asia-2022-05-04/>

6. Israel's government on Monday ordered communications firms to step up their cyber security efforts in the wake of a rise in attempted hacking attacks.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/israel-keen-set-up-cyber-iron-dome-curb-rise-attacks-2022-05-02/>

7. North Korea has fired ballistic missile towards its east coast, according to South Korea's military, about a week after the North said it would develop its nuclear capabilities "at the fastest possible speed".

Source: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/5/4/north-korea-fires-unidentified-projectile-towards-east-seoul>

8. "One ballistic missile fired by North Korea today at 1203 (0303 GMT) from around Sunan towards the East Sea (Sea of Japan) was detected," South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a statement.

Source: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/world-news/north-korea-fires-ballistic->



[missile-towards-east-says-seoul-101651637365210.html](https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/05/north-korea-missile-launch-intl-hnk-ml/index.html)

9. North Korea fired a ballistic missile into the waters off its east coast on Wednesday, Japan and South Korea have reported. The missile was launched from Sunan, an area of the North Korean capital of Pyongyang, according to South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff. Meanwhile, Japanese Deputy Defense Minister Makoto Oniki said the missile is estimated to have flown at a maximum altitude of about 800 kilometers over a distance of about 500 kilometers before falling into the sea outside of Japan's Exclusive Economic Zone.

Source: <https://edition.cnn.com/2022/05/03/asia/north-korea-missile-launch-intl-hnk-ml/index.html>

## NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

---

1. Conservative Prime Minister Boris Johnson committed to building as many as eight nuclear plants by 2050 in the government's energy-security strategy released last month. He tweeted Monday after visiting the plant in Hartlepool that "instead of a new one every decade, we're going to build one every year."

Source: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/world-news/uk-says-nuclear-revival-will-be-different-this-time-around-101651673957699.html>

2. Iran will continue the path of diplomacy until achieving a final agreement in the Vienna nuke talks, the Iranian Foreign Minister has said. Hossein Amir-Abdollahian made the remarks in a phone conversation with his Irish counterpart Simon Coveney, Xinhua news agency reported, citing the Iranian Foreign Ministry's website.

Source: <https://www.siasat.com/iran-vows-to-continue-diplomatic-path-until-reaching-deal-in-vienna-talks-2320324/>

3. Diplomacy over the revival of the Iran nuclear deal is still being maintained, Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian declared, while a holdup in the multilateral negotiations enters a third month. In an interview with the Yemeni TV channel Al-Masirah on May 3, the Iranian top diplomat noted that Tehran and Washington are still exchanging "written messages" conveyed by a European go-between.

Source: <https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/05/iran-denies-impasse-nuclear-deal-diplomacy>



4. An Iranian lawmaker says if the talks to restore the 2015 nuclear deal do not continue in line with the country's interests, they will not be necessary. Member of parliament's National Security and Foreign Policy Committee Zohreh Elahian said on Wednesday that it is not the policy of the current administration to negotiate for the sake of negotiating.

Source: <https://www.iranintl.com/en/202205041203>

5. North Korea has launched a ballistic missile toward its eastern waters on Wednesday, South Korean and Japanese officials said. The test launch came days after North Korean leader Kim Jong Un vowed to bolster his nuclear arsenal "at the fastest possible pace," and threatened to use it against rivals.

Source: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/north-korea-ballistic-missile-launch-nuclear-threat/>

## UN REFORMS

---

1. U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said on Tuesday he fully supported moves to expand facilities to reintegrate surrendering Islamist insurgents in northeastern Nigeria because it was a key step to achieving peace in Africa's most populous nation.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/un-chief-backs-nigerias-integration-insurgents-calls-it-key-peace-2022-05-03/>

2. North Korea fired a ballistic missile toward the sea off its east coast on Wednesday, South Korea and Japan said, about a week after Pyongyang vowed to develop its nuclear forces "at the fastest possible speed".

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/nkorea-fires-projectile-towards-sea-off-east-coast-says-skorea-2022-05-04/>

3. Sri Lanka plans to replace its current "unrealistic" budget and is in talks with the World Bank to extend its support by \$300 million to \$700 million, the country's finance minister said on Wednesday.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/sri-lanka-talks-extend-world-bank-aid-plans-new-budget-finmin-2022-05-04/>

4. The Supreme Court in military-ruled Myanmar on Wednesday struck down an appeal from deposed leader Aung San Suu Kyi against a five-year jail sentence she was handed



last week on corruption charges.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/myanmar-supreme-court-summarily-dismisses-suu-kyi-appeal-source-2022-05-04/>

5. The number of unaccompanied children who sought asylum in the European Union in 2021 jumped by 72% as the number of refugees arriving from Afghanistan rose sharply, the bloc's statistics office said on Wednesday.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/number-child-asylum-seekers-eu-soared-2021-with-many-afghanistan-2022-05-04/>

6. The United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) is concerned about the impact on girls' learning from the decision to ban schooling for females over the sixth grade, a senior UNICEF official said.

Source: <https://tolonews.com/afghanistan-177863>

7. Researchers have revealed a sophisticated Winnti cyber attack that makes use of Windows systems in a "rarely observed" method. According to Cybereason, the campaign is being carried out by the Chinese advanced persistent threat (APT) group Winnti, which has gone undiscovered for years.

Source: <https://www.wionews.com/world/operation-cuckoobees-notorious-chinese-hackers-took-trillions-of-dollars-from-about-30-companies-476266>